rheumatic heart disease is still lacking. The need is for more beds where these children can have controlled rest with education, and it is essential that these recovery facilities should be worked in close co-operation with the hospitals. Caution is necessary before it is regarded as settled that open air treatment is wisest for rheumatic children. The results of open air schools and other treatment of the same type seem hardly uniform enough to justify as yet this mode of treatment as a settled policy.

R. R. STRUTHERS

ON WEALTH, PHILANTHROPY, AND MENTAL HYGIENE

THE announcement that the Commonwealth Fund has appropriated $170,000 for the first annual budget of an Institute for Child Guidance in the city of New York is of interest to the medical profession as further evidence of the importance which large philanthropic agencies attach to the disclosure of the primary causes of mental disease and defect. These agencies have learned that expenditures for amelioration alone will accomplish little in solving the social problems which depend in large measure upon disorders or defects of body or mind. Prevention has become their keynote, and their urging of the application of preventive measures which sometimes seem a bit extreme, has been provocative of some disquiet and some criticism in professional circles. Criticism has come, also, from other than medical sources, especially from those who look with distrust upon the motives of organizations which are supported by those much maligned individuals, the capitalists. Misunderstanding and prejudice so commonly lead us "*hinter's Licht,*" and are such usual traits of the critic, that we should be careful about allowing ourselves to be influenced by opinions expressed by those who are not in possession of all the facts and who do not fully consider results. Great wealth does not necessarily close its possessor's heart to the appeal of human need, although its acquisition may be consequent upon a type of mind which analyzes method and detects the futility of ordinary philanthropy. Wealth is primarily responsible to labour, employment of which demands that industry must be maintained, and business affairs must have the major share of the rich man's time. The furtherance of his philanthropies must, therefore, be delegated to others, chosen not merely because of their evident desire to serve their fellows, but also because they have shown ability to render sane service. Neither the rich man nor his agents are likely to be infallible or free from faults. Mistakes will be made, and lack of tactfulness will now and again cause irritation. But the motives remain good, and, what is particularly to the point, the results are, on the whole, distinctly advantageous to the public. The doctrine that the end justifies the means is not always acceptable, but to the greater part of recent philanthropic endeavour it is distinctly applicable. Should there be irritation, it is well to remember that this word is often used as a synonym of stimulation.

The Child Guidance Institute is being established to further four particular purposes, the utility of which has been demonstrated by the study of the problems of juvenile delinquency which has been carried on by the Commonwealth Fund in a number of centres during the past five years. In brief, these purposes are: Further study and research in the mental hygiene of children; the training of psychiatrists and psychologists in practical child-guidance work; the field training of students in psychiatric social work; the provision of clinical facilities for the study and treatment of children presenting problems in behaviour and mental hygiene. It may be assumed that one of the results of the Institute's activities will be an intensification of interest in mental hygiene, and a demand

for more attention to this subject by the physician.

Anything which promises real assistance in the prevention of sickness is of appealing interest to the practitioner, who must always be the most substantial proponent and promoter of preventive measures. His work on behalf of the general weal will always be carried on quietly and without the dramatic effect of either public or private health organizations, but the combined effort of the profession must ever be the principal factor in disease prevention. The liberality of the Rockefeller Foundation in endowing schools of hygiene, such as that now under construction at the University of Toronto, may be taken as recognition of the basic importance of the physician in the work on behalf of the public health, which that great Foundation is sponsoring. And as the Foundation does not bestow its favours without fair assurance of satisfactory results, it may be taken that its beneficence to medical education is an avowal of confidence in the profession.

We have long recognized the importance of what is loosely termed the mental factor in disease. It is a puzzling and elusive factor, and a veritable bug-a-boo to most of us. In no field of medicine are there greater or more intricate subjects to be solved than in psychiatry, and in no field is there greater promise of results of general application to medical practice. In the few years during which psychiatric study has had real encouragement very substantial progress has been made. This would be more generally appreciated were it not that psychiatric literature has become somewhat difficult of comprehension. A nearer approach to the vernacular, on the part of psychiatrists, would be welcomed by the busy practitioner whose dictionaries are more than a few days old. This will come with clarification of the mechanism of mental activities, to which much study is now being given.

The quiet but efficient work being carried on by the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene, perhaps more notably at Montreal and Toronto, deserves the recognition and commendation of the profession. In general, it is much along the lines to be followed by the New York Institute, although of more modest proportions. Our National Committee is training psychiatrists and psychiatric social workers who will undoubtedly aid materially in the solution of problems which as yet prove baffling. All such work is aimed at results which must ultimately influence medical teaching and medical practice. The profession, therefore, cannot be indifferent to it, and will not withhold its sympathetic interest and active support as long as it is being prosecuted along safe and sane lines.

W. H. HATTIE

THE SANATORIUM AND THE STUDENT

WE are in receipt of an interesting article by Dr. David A. Stewart of Ninette reprinted from the Transactions of the twenty-first annual meeting of the National Tuberculosis Association, 1925, which is well worthy of perusal by teachers, and, indeed, by physicians in general. It very properly advocates the use of the sanatorium as one of the laboratories for student training. Dr. Stewart draws attention to the fact that the sanatorium offers the student not only an opportunity to study tuberculosis in the majority of its manifestations, but much more besides. The modern sanatorium is an excellent field for the study of clinical medicine in general, but more than that, it gives to the student an appreciation of the sound principles of public health and community welfare. He can absorb fundamental facts in the psychology of therapeutics; he will see how environment and a healthy *morale*, as well as the physical environment, influence the cure of disease. He will re-